BISHOPTHORPE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1920.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE BISHOPTHORPE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

To the Chairman and Members of the Bishopthorpe Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my Report for the year 1920.

The area of the District is 5,550 acres.

The estimated civil population is 2,091.

BIRTH-RATE.

The births registered are 33, 23 males and 10 females: 1 male was illegitimate. The birth-rate is 15.7 per 1,000 of the population. In 1919 it was 10.5. In 1918 it was 15.7.

DEATH-RATE.

The deaths registered are 23, 13 males and 10 females, giving a death-rate of 10.9 per 1,000 of the population. Two of the deaths were non-residents. In 1919 the rate was 10.0. In 1918 the rate was 11.9. During September, October, and November no deaths occurred.

The Zymotic death-rate is .9. In 1919 it was .4.

The infantile mortality rate is 1.9, or a rate of 121 per 1,000 births registered.

AGES AT DEATH OF RESIDENTS WHO DIED IN THE DISTRICT.

Under 1, 3; 1 and under 5, 0; 5 to 15, 0; 15 to 25, 1; 25 to 65, 7; 65 to 75, 2; 75 to 85, 4; 85 and upwards, 4; total, 21.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

There were 23 deaths in the District as follows:—Bronchitis, 2; Pneumonia, 1; Nephritis, 1; Enteritis, 2; Diseases and Accidents of Parturition, 2; Premature Birth, 1; Cirrhosis of Liver, 1; Tuborculosis, 2; Heart Disease, 1; Found Drowned, 1; all other diseases, 9.

CASES REPORTED UNDER THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT.

Diphtheria, 2; Scarlet Fever, 1; Erysipelas, 1; Malaria, 1; Lobar Pneumonia, 1; Tuberculosis, 4.

SCARLET FEVER.—On 3rd August, a child, 7 years of age, was notified from a cottage at Middlethorpe. The case was isolated at home. On my visit I was unable to trace any definite history as to the origin.

DIPHTHERIA.—The first case, a child, 14 years of age, was notified on 30th April from a house at Bishopthorpe, and was removed to the Acomb Isolation Hospital. The second case, a boy, 11 years of age, was notified from Copmanthorpe on 12th September, it was an exceedingly mild case and was isolated at home. Minor sanitary defects received attention. The origin was obscure in both instances.

ERYSIPELAS.—This was a man, 40 years of age, in a cottage at Bishopthorpe.

MALARIA.—On 5th August, a man, 22 years of age, was reported from Middlethorpe. On my visit I found the man had contracted the disease whilst in the Army. The case was very mild.

LOBAR PNEUMONIA.—This was reported on 16th June, a boy, 6 years of age, at Askham Richard. The boy made a good recovery.

TUBERCULOSIS.—The first case occurred at Bishopthorpe, a man, 40 years of age, the case proved fatal. The second was notified from Middlethorpe, a young gentleman, 22 years of age, he shortly afterwards left for treatment in Scotland. The third case was a boy, 10 years of age, at Bishopthorpe, suffering from Tubercular Glands. The fourth case was a girl, 15 years of age, at

Bishopthorpe, also Tubercular Glands. All the cases were having proper medical treatment. All cases of infectious disease are visited by the Inspector of Nuisances, and the majority by myself. Precautions are taken to check the spread of the disease, and when advisable the cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital. Sanatorium, etc. Any sanitary defects are attended to, and clothing, bedding, rooms, etc., are thoroughly stoved and disinfected.

SOCIAL AND NATURAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The inhabitants are chiefly occupied in farming and trades dependent thereon. There are no factories or workshops in the District of any importance. In addition to the attendance of the Poor Law Medical Officer, cases are admitted into the York County Hospital, Poor Law Infirmary, etc. Antitoxin is supplied free to the medical men on request.

REARING OF INFANTS.

The Ministry of Health again urge the importance of all possible measures being taken to lower the infantile mortality rate throughout the country. The West Riding County Council Child Welfare Sub-Committee have been very active during the year, providing and equipping convenient and suitable centres where parturient women can obtain medical advice and free treatment, and where babies and school children are advised upon or treated for minor ailments. Your District is well supplied with good wholesome milk, the dairies and cowsheds are regularly visited by your Inspector, who reports they are kept in a satisfactory sanitary condition. I would, however, advise the Council to again have re-distributed the pamphlet by Dr. Kaye, the County Medical Officer, on the "Rearing of Infants." The practical advice given in this pamphlet, if acted on, would certainly help to lower the mortality rate in the West Riding.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

This is carried out under the supervision of Dr. Kaye, the efficiency of which is seen in the improved health of children attending school.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Very little progress is possible owing to the scarcity of materials and labour—fortunately there is no serious shortage of houses in the District. Improvements to defective ashpits, privies, drains, etc., have had attention during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The villages of Dringhouses, Bishopthorpe, Middlethorpe, and Copmanthorpe are supplied from the York City Mains. Askham Richard obtains a good supply from two deep bore wells. Acaster Malbis is chiefly supplied from shallow surface wells, which are liable to contamination, and a few deep bore wells.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Public Scavenging is carried out throughout the District, with the exception of Acaster Malbis. I would advise the Council to adopt it for this village. All the schools are under this scheme. About half the houses in the District are supplied with pail or tub closets, 160 with water closets, a number with privies and ashpits and covered middens. The sanitary inspection is carried out efficiently by the Inspector of Nuisances, and under his supervision a number of nuisances and defects have been remedied.

I am, Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

ALWYN RAIMES, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table C.- 1920.

Closet Accommodation—

No. of Pail or Tub Closets. Half the houses in the Area.

No. of Privies with covered middens. Several.

No. of Water Closets. About 160.

No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1920—
(a) w.c.'s. None. (b) other. 2 into pail closets.

Scavenging—

How is refuse disposed of? No. of loads to (a) Destructor. None. (b) Tips. None. (c) Farmers. 140. Total annual cost. Approximately £150.

Is there any inadequacy, and where? Acaster Malbis.

Nuisance Inspections—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1920. 29.

Statutory Notices served. 4.

Complied with. 4.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1919. 1.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1920. None.

Total No. of Nuisances reported during 1920. 4 Total No. of Nuisances abated during 1920. 5.

Schools—

Schools visited by M.O.H. 20.

Milk Supply—

What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows? Can call in a Veterinary if required.

No. of Cowkeepers in district. 8.

No. Registered. 8.

No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers. 8.

Total No. of Cowsheds. 16.

No. of Inspections in 1920. 18.

General Condition. Fairly good.

Approximate No. of Milch Cows in District. 200.

Other Foods—

No. of Slaughter-houses. 2.

No. Registered. 2.

No. Unsatisfactory? Both good.

Bye-laws and Regulations—

Any Bye-Laws made under Section 26 of Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919, as to houses divided into separate tenements. No buildings suitable for such purposes.

Infectious and other Diseases—

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1920? Measles.

Tuberculosis—

(1) Inspection of patient's home and workshop. Yes.

(2) Examination for contacts. Yes.

(3) Is house disinfected? Yes. When? After removal or recovery of patient.

(4) Leaflets, Lectures, etc., distributed. Yes.

(5) Action re spitting. Advice given.

(6) Is sputum examined apart from Dispensary? Yes.

Bacteriology—

Is County Laboratory utilised? Yes.

Infant Mortality—

What organised effort to control it? West Riding County Council Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

Vital Statistics—

Births during 1920-Males, 23. Females, 10. Total, 33.

No. illegitimate included in above. 1.

Deaths during 1920—(1) Gross Deaths, i.e., Total actually registered in the District without any correction. 23.

(2) Net Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males, 13: Females, 10.

Sanitary Staff—

Name of Sanitary Inspector. Robert Hagyard. Annual Salary as Inspector. £60.

Other appointments held. Highway Surveyor.

Salary for such other appointments. £90.

Is Staff sufficient? Yes.

Summary of Housing Work during 1920.

Houses not reasonably fit for human habitation. 49.

Houses totally unfit for human habitation. 1.

Houses inspected under the Act and Regulations in 1919. 389.

Houses found satisfactory on inspection. 340.

Houses for which notices were given to execute works. 33.

Houses in respect of which notices were satisfactorily complied with. 15.

Houses found with defects. 4.

Houses in regard to which notices were served to remedy defects. 4.

Houses made fit after notice. 4.

Houses not reasonably fit for human habitation. 34.

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Other action in regard to housing-

Total No. of houses in district. 494. No. of working-class houses. 389.

General standard compared with that of the Ministry of Health in Manual Vol. I., 1919. Some of these are very poor, but capable of improvement.

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where? Bishopthorpe, Copmanthorpe, Acaster Malbis, and Dringhouses.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where? Yes. Copmanthorpe and Bishopthorpe (4 cases).

No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1920. Ventilation improved in 2 cases.

State-aided Housing Schemes-

Has Scheme been submitted as required by Section 1 of 1919 Act. Yes.

Estimated need for 24 houses. Scheme for 8 houses. Sites. Under consideration.

Name and Address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910? Robert Hagyard, Dringhouses, York.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces-

Factories Inspected. 1. Workshops Inspected. 7.

Registered Workshops—

Joiners and Wheelwrights. 4
Blacksmiths. 4.
Bicycle Repairing. 1.
Boot and Shoe Repairing. 1.
Total number of Workshops on Register. 10.